

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 110

By Cobb J

A RESOLUTION to recognize Ed Emens on the occasion of his retirement.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this legislative body should honor those citizens who have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm throughout their years of industry; and

WHEREAS, Ed Emens is one such estimable person who has served with distinction for twenty-six years as the publisher of *The Herald-News*; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Emens is the only publisher *The Herald-News* has ever known; and

WHEREAS, in 1979, Ed Emens and his wife, Diane, moved to Dayton to start a new publication in a market that had been dominated by the *Dayton Herald* for decades; and

WHEREAS, driven by their strong work ethic and funded by borrowed money, Mr. and Mrs. Emens started the *Rhea County Shopper*, a publication which controlled local advertising within a few years but was still in competition with the *Dayton Herald*; and

WHEREAS, in 1982, the owner of the *Dayton Herald*, John M. Jones, Sr., decided it would be more profitable for him to hire Ed Emens than to compete with him; and

WHEREAS, that same year Mr. Jones merged the *Dayton Herald*, the *Rhea County Shopper*, and the *Rhea County News* into a new publication under the title *The Herald News*, with Ed Emens at the helm; and

WHEREAS, under the leadership of Ed Emens, *The Herald News* transitioned from a weekly paper to a biweekly paper in 1985 and added its online counterpart, Rhea County Online, in 1988; and

WHEREAS, as other newspapers battled declining sales, Mr. Emens increased sales at *The Herald News*; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Emens took his much deserved retirement on July 4, 2008; and

WHEREAS, Ed Emens is an active and important part of his community and his profession, holding leadership positions with numerous worthy organizations, including his roles as Director of the Tennessee Press Association in 1992 and 1993 and as a member of the Board of Directors for the Rhea Economic & Development Council from 1986 until 2006; and

WHEREAS, a highly-involved member of the Dayton Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Emens served as a member of the Chamber's Board of Directors from 1991 through 2008, President of the Chamber during three different terms between 1992 and 1997, and Vice President of the Chamber from 1991 until 1992; and

WHEREAS, Ed Emens exemplifies the spirit and allegiance to his profession and his community that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, throughout his estimable career, Ed Emens has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of his colleagues; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we extend to Ed Emens our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and every continued success in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.